

### **REMARKS**

Claim 27 was pending and under consideration in the above-identified application.

Claims 1-26 were cancelled in a previous amendment and remain cancelled.

In the Office Action of March 31, 2008, claim 27 was rejected.

With this Amendment, claim 27 is amended and remains at issue.

#### **I. Claim Objections**

Claim 27 was objected to for various informalities.

With this amendment, claim 27 is amended to overcome the objection taking into account the Examiner's suggestions. No new matter was added in the making of these amendments. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of this objection.

#### **II. 35 U.S.C. § 102 Anticipation Rejection of Claims**

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Arikawa*. (U.S. Patent No. 6,031,571). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As amended, claim 27 now recites a plurality of unit pixels with each unit pixel having (a) a photoelectric conversion element for converting incident light into an electric signal charge and then storing the signal charge obtained through such photoelectric conversion, (b) an amplifying element effective to amplify the signal charge stored in said photoelectric conversion element into an electric signal, and (c) a reset element effective to reset said signal charge and a solid state imaging sensor which includes a selection circuit configured to provide a reset signal to the reset element and a selection signal to the selection element.

This is clearly unlike *Arikawa*, which fails to disclose a reset circuit located in each pixel or a selection circuit which provides a selection and reset signal to a selection element and a reset

element. Instead, *Arikawa* discloses multiple pixels sending combined electric signal charges to a single reset circuit which moves the combined electrical signal from a floating diffusion in the reset circuit to a reset drain when the reset circuit receives a reset pulse. See U.S. Patent No. 6,031,571, Col. 1 l. 24-35. Since *Arikawa* discloses a single reset circuit for multiple pixels without a selection circuit providing a selection and reset signal, it does not disclose all of required elements of the claim.

As Applicant's specification teaches, by providing a pixel with an amplifying circuit and reset circuit located in each pixel, the fixed pattern noise derived from the characteristic deviation in each pixel is suppressed. See, U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2004/0080644 Para[0046]. Additionally, by providing a selection circuit which provides a selection and reset pulse to each pixel, the circuit configuration is simplified since the scanning circuit also serves as a reset circuit. See, U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2004/0080644 Para[0070]. Since *Arikawa* does not disclose either of these features, it does not produce the same benefits.

Therefore, because *Arikawa* fails to disclose or even fairly suggest every feature of claim 27, the rejection cannot stand.

**III. Conclusion**

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all claims are clearly allowable over the cited prior art, and respectfully request early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 27, 2008

By: /David R. Metzger/  
David R. Metzger  
Registration No. 32,919  
SONNENSCHNEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP  
P.O. Box 061080  
Wacker Drive Station, Sears Tower  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-1080  
(312) 876-8000